

Iowa Department of Public Health
 Division of Behavioral Health
 Opioid Update for Wednesday, May 2, 2018

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) offers the Opioid Update to share information about opioid use and Iowa's efforts to address the national opioid epidemic. Please feel free to submit topics to Julie Jones at julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov.

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Iowa News

House File 2377: Approved by the Senate

House File 2377 was approved by the Senate on April 30, 2018. The legislation will now return to the House for a final vote, and then be delivered to Governor Reynold's office for signature. As it stands now, the bill aligns with the Governor's outlined priorities to combat opioid use problems in Iowa.

The changes that will happen in Iowa if the bill is voted through and signed, will significantly improve the rating given to the state as outlined in the Opioid Initiatives Report Card developed by IDPH last October for the Legislative Opioid Study Committee. More importantly, those changes will improve the lives of Iowans struggling with opioid use.

State of Iowa Opioid Initiatives Report Card		
Measure	Yes	No
1. State has a Prescription Monitoring Program	✓	
2. Prescribers are required to use the Prescription Monitoring Program	(✓)	
3. Prescription Monitoring Program has 24-hour upload from pharmacies	(✓)	
4. State utilizes prescription limits for opioids		X
5. State has a Syringe Services Program		X
6. State has a Good Samaritan Law	(✓)	
7. State has Expanded Naloxone Access	✓	
8. State has dedicated funding for Naloxone		X
9. State has Medicaid coverage for all forms of medication assisted treatment	✓	
10. State requires training on CDC Guidelines for Managing Chronic Pain	(✓)	

(✓) Indicates changes as a result of House File 2377.

Department Efforts

IDPH Staff Working to Educate Others on Opioid Misuse

In addition to efforts such as the bi-weekly Opioid Update and ongoing media campaigns, IDPH staff have been actively working to educate others regarding Iowa's experience with the nationwide opioid crisis. In April, staff presented at the Iowa Public Health Conference, the 41st Annual Governor's Conference on Substance Abuse (pictured: Monica Wilke-Brown and Jennifer Robertson-Hill), and the annual Sioux City Police Department's Town Hall meeting.



As part of its coordinating efforts across multiple federal grants – ***Preventing Opioid Misuse amongst Women (POMW), State Targeted Response (STR), Medication Assisted Treatment – Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction (MAT-PDOA), Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF-Rx), and AmeriCorps Substance Abuse Prevention Program*** – IDPH has been broadly disseminating information on a range of opioid related topics, such as: overview of the opioid epidemic; addressing the opioid issue in Iowa; medication-assisted treatment; and overdose recognition and response.

For more information on upcoming presentations, or to request that IDPH staff speak to your group or community, please contact Kevin Gabbert at kevin.gabbert@idph.iowa.gov.

Opioid News

USDA Resources Available to Support Communities Dealing with Opioids

The USDA recently announced two Rural Development funding opportunities available to rural communities:

- ***Community Facilities Program Grants:*** The USDA reserved \$5 million in grants for innovative projects that address the opioid crisis in rural America. Communities, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized tribes can apply for up to \$150,000 in grants for innovative projects, such as mobile treatment clinics. The grants can be used to fund up to 75 percent of a project's cost.
- ***Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants:*** The USDA will give priority to applications for projects to provide opioid misuse prevention, treatment, or recovery services. Congress has set aside \$20 million for Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants specifically for opioid prevention, treatment and recovery projects. Eligible proposals can receive 10 priority points.

Applications are due June 4, 2018.

In addition to these funding opportunities, Rural Development's Innovation Center is working to promote strategic partnerships and local capacity building, identify and share best practices, evaluate data, and streamline regulations to remove barriers to rural prosperity, including access to mental and behavioral health care.

For more information on USDA funding opportunities and efforts in addressing Opioid Misuse in Rural America, please visit the following website: [USDA](#)

More than 4 million people left the workforce because of opioid addiction

According to a study by the American Action Forum, from 1999 to 2015, there were 4.1 million fewer people in the workforce because of opioid addiction, the latest research to show that drug use is having a profound effect on the U.S. economy.

The study finds that the loss of these employees, ages 25 to 54, and their productivity cost the U.S. economy \$702.1 billion, or just under \$44 billion per year. The number of people who are not working because they are dependent on opioids has grown each year since 1999. Nearly 1 million people in their prime earning years were absent from the workforce in 2015 because of opioid addiction, according to the study.

To read the entire article, please click on the following link: [Chicago Tribune](#)

New Opioid Training for Primary Care Providers: Assessing and Addressing Opioid Use Disorder

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) launched *Assessing and Addressing Opioid Use Disorder*, the fifth module in a series of interactive, online trainings for healthcare providers. Participants will look at how opioid use disorder (OUD) is diagnosed using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5) assessment criteria, and learn how to discuss this diagnosis with patients. Providers will also examine the different types of medications used for medication-assisted therapy (MAT). This training features recommendations from the *CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain* and resources from SAMHSA, and provides sample scenarios and clinical tools and resources.

To learn more about this training opportunity, please click on the following link: [CDC](#)